

What is claimed is:

- 1 A lighting unit comprising a ring-shaped transparent body for light diffusion and a plurality of illuminants, with said transparent body having a center hole and having a light-emission surface and a light-introduction surface, both of which surround the center hole, with said plurality of illuminants being positioned along the light-introduction surface in order to emit light from the light-emission surface of the transparent body.
2. The lighting unit as defined in Claim 1, wherein <sup>a space</sup> the opening between said illuminants and said transparent body is filled with transparent silicone.
3. The lighting unit as defined in Claims ~~1 or 2~~, wherein a reflective layer is provided on each arbitrary surface other than the light-introduction surface and the light-emission surface so as to reflect and return light into said transparent body.
4. The lighting unit as defined in Claim 1, ~~2, or 3~~, wherein the light-emission surface of said transparent body is a ring-shaped plane.
5. The lighting unit as defined in Claim 1, ~~2, or 3~~, wherein the light-emission surface of said transparent body is a concave face of a hollow truncated cone shape.
6. The lighting unit as defined in Claim 1, ~~2, or 3~~, wherein the light-emission surface of said transparent body is a concave face of a bowl shape.